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P.O. Box 748
Greenfield MA 01302
September 14, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville MD 20852

Re: Docket Numbers 97N-0074

To Whom It May Concern:

Animal production problems are at the root of food safety issues. The terrible treatment and conditions which farm animals are forced to endure create disease in both the animals and the people who eat them.

To have safe food you need safe animals. Please improve the conditions of the animals while they are alive and improve the way people kill them. Any other attempt at solving food safety problems is superficial and bound to fail.

Forms of improvements include eliminating overcrowding and other stressful conditions, such as battery cages, stopping the creation of animal feed from diseased animals, limiting antibiotic and drug use, and preventing inhumane, unhygienic slaughter.

The way farm animals are treated in factory farm production is a shame to this country and we are paying for it in the form of death and disease.

Sincerely,


Marian A. Kelner

✓ Cc: USDA/FSIS Hearing Clerk
Docket No. 98-045N